In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A turbo decoding system, comprising:

a decoder module, using an adaptive abort criterion to halt iteration; and

executing said adaptive abort criterion utilizing division without said division by a

variable ~~wherein the adaptive abort criterion is executed without variable division~~.

2. (previously presented)The system of Claim 1, wherein the abort criterion is based on

the mean and variance of partially decoded extrinsics.

3. (previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein the abort criterion is based on

a ratio of the mean and variance of partially decoded extrinsics.

4. (currently amended) An iterative decoder system, comprising:

a decoder module~~, wherein~~ for generating estimates of data symbols ~~are generated~~

through an iterative decoding process;

a comparator having a comparison algorithm for comparing a derived quality attribute of

the generated data symbol estimates to a predetermined threshold said~~; wherein the~~

comparison algorithm being ~~is~~ executed utilizing division without said ~~variable~~ division by

a variable; and

~~and wherein~~ means to abort said decoding ~~is aborted~~ based on ~~the~~ a comparison result.

5. (previously presented) The system of Claim 4, wherein the quality attribute is based

on the mean and variance of the estimates of data symbols.

6. (previously presented) The system of Claim 4, wherein the quality attribute is based

on a ratio of the mean and variance of the estimates of data symbols.

7. (currently amended) The system of Claim 4, wherein the quality attribute is generated without ~~variable~~ division <u>by a variable</u>.

8. (currently amended) ~~A method for determining an~~ An abort criterion in iterative decoding, comprising the steps of:

generating estimates of data symbols;

generating a quality attribute based on the estimates <u>with division without said division by a variable</u>;

comparing the quality attribute to a predetermined threshold; <u>and</u>

aborting the turbo decoding based on ~~the~~ <u>a</u> comparison result;

~~wherein the quality attribute is generated without division functions~~.

9. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the quality attribute is based on the mean and variance of the estimates of data symbols.

10. (currently amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of comparing is implemented <u>with division</u> without <u>said</u> division <u>by a variable</u> ~~functions~~.

11. (currently amended) ~~A method for determining an~~ An abort criterion in iterative decoding, comprising the steps of:

(a.) generating estimates of data symbols after an iteration substep;

(b.) measuring the mean of the estimates;

(c.) measuring the variance of the estimates;

(d.) generating a quality attribute based on the mean and the variance;

(e.) comparing the quality attribute to a predetermined threshold; and

(f.) aborting the turbo decoding based on <u>a</u> ~~the~~ comparison result;

wherein steps (b), (c), (d), and (e) are implemented <u>with division</u> without <u>said</u> division <u>by a variable</u> ~~functions~~.

12. (previously presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the quality attribute is based on a ratio of the mean and the variance of the estimates.

13. (currently amended) An iterative decoder system for a recursive systematic encoder, comprising:

a decoder module, wherein estimates of data symbols are generated through an iterative decoding process;

a comparison algorithm for comparing a quality attribute of the generated data symbol estimates to a predetermined threshold;

wherein the quality attribute is based on the mean and the variance of the estimates;

wherein decoding is aborted based on the result of said comparison; and

wherein the mean and variance for the estimates and the comparison algorithm are implemented <u>with division</u> without <u>said</u> division <u>by a variable</u> ~~functions~~.

14. (previously presented) The system of Claim 13, wherein the quality attribute is based on a ratio of the mean and variance of the estimates.